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6 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
7 **DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

8 ) Case #2:22-cv-01717-RFB-EJY  
9 GHEBREYESUS et al. )  
10 Plaintiff(s), )  
11 vs. )  
12 FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF )  
13 ETHIOPIA et al. )  
14 Defendant(s). )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )  
FILING FEE IS \$250.00

**VERIFIED PETITION FOR  
PERMISSION TO PRACTICE  
IN THIS CASE ONLY BY  
ATTORNEY NOT ADMITTED  
TO THE BAR OF THIS COURT  
AND DESIGNATION OF  
LOCAL COUNSEL**

15  
16 Neil A.F. Popović, Petitioner, respectfully represents to the Court:  
17 (name of petitioner)

18 1. That Petitioner is an attorney at law and a member of the law firm of

19 \_\_\_\_\_  
20 Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP  
(firm name)

21 with offices at \_\_\_\_\_ Four Embarcadero Center, 17th Floor  
22 (street address)

23 \_\_\_\_\_ San Francisco, \_\_\_\_\_ California, \_\_\_\_\_ 94111,  
24 (city) (state) (zip code)

25 415-774-3156, \_\_\_\_\_ npopovic@sheppardmullin.com  
26 (area code + telephone number) (Email address)

27 2. That Petitioner has been retained personally or as a member of the law firm by

28 Fremichael Ghebreyesus and Simret Zerai Yohannes to provide legal representation in connection with  
[client(s)]

the above-entitled case now pending before this Court.

1       3. That since 12/14/1987 (date), Petitioner has been and presently is a  
 2 member in good standing of the bar of the highest Court of the State of California  
 3 (state) where Petitioner regularly practices law. Petitioner shall attach a certificate from the state bar or  
 4 from the clerk of the supreme court or highest admitting court of each state, territory, or insular  
 5 possession of the United States in which the applicant has been admitted to practice law certifying  
 6 the applicant's membership therein is in good standing.

7       4. That Petitioner was admitted to practice before the following United States District  
 8 Courts, United States Circuit Courts of Appeal, the Supreme Court of the United States and Courts  
 9 of other States on the dates indicated for each, and that Petitioner is presently a member in good  
 10 standing of the bars of said Courts.

Court	Date Admitted	Bar Number
<u>U.S. Supreme Court</u>	<u>07/27/2009</u>	<u>272623</u>
<u>U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit</u>	<u>11/18/1988</u>	<u>132403</u>
<u>U.S. District Court for the N. District California</u>	<u>11/23/1988</u>	<u>132403</u>
<u>U.S. District Court for the E. District California</u>	<u>11/28/1988</u>	<u>132403</u>
<u>U.S. District Court for the C. District California</u>	<u>12/14/1987</u>	<u>132403</u>
<u>U.S. District Court for the S. District California</u>	<u>01/02/2013</u>	<u>132403</u>

19       5. That there are or have been no disciplinary proceedings instituted against petitioner,  
 20 nor any suspension of any license, certificate or privilege to appear before any judicial, regulatory  
 21 or administrative body, or any resignation or termination in order to avoid disciplinary or  
 22 disbarment proceedings, except as described in detail below:

23       None.

1           6.    That Petitioner has never been denied admission to the State Bar of Nevada. (Give  
2    particulars if ever denied admission):

3 || None.

6 7. That Petitioner is a member of good standing in the following Bar Associations.

7 || State Bar of California.

10 8. Petitioner has filed application(s) to appear as counsel under Local Rule IA 11-2  
11 (formerly LR IA 10-2) during the past three (3) years in the following matters: (State "none" if no applications.)

12	Date of Application	Cause	Title of Court	Was Application Granted or Denied
13			Administrative Body or Arbitrator	

14 None.  
15 \_\_\_\_\_  
16 \_\_\_\_\_  
17 \_\_\_\_\_  
18 \_\_\_\_\_

19 (If necessary, please attach a statement of additional applications)

20        9. Petitioner consents to the jurisdiction of the courts and disciplinary boards of the  
21 State of Nevada with respect to the law of this state governing the conduct of attorneys to the same  
22 extent as a member of the State Bar of Nevada.

23        10. Petitioner agrees to comply with the standards of professional conduct required of  
24 the members of the bar of this court.

25        11. Petitioner has disclosed in writing to the client that the applicant is not admitted to  
26 practice in this jurisdiction and that the client has consented to such representation.

That Petitioner respectfully prays that Petitioner be admitted to practice before this Court FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS CASE ONLY.

STATE OF California )  
COUNTY OF San Francisco )

Petitioner's signature

Neil A.F. Popović, Petitioner, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

That the foregoing statements are true.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this

26 day of October, 2032

Christy Orla  
Notary Public or Clerk of Court

A rectangular notary seal with a scalloped edge. Inside, it features a circular seal with a building and the text 'THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA'. Below this is the text 'SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY' and 'NOTARY PUBLIC'. At the bottom, it says 'COMMISSION #2275509' and 'MY COMM. EXPIRES JAN 19, 2023'.

**DESIGNATION OF RESIDENT ATTORNEY ADMITTED TO  
THE BAR OF THIS COURT AND CONSENT THERETO.**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Local Rules of Practice for this Court, the Petitioner believes it to be in the best interests of the client(s) to designate Jeffrey Silvestri,  
(name of local counsel)  
Attorney at Law, member of the State of Nevada and previously admitted to practice before the above-entitled Court as associate resident counsel in this action. The address and email address of said designated Nevada counsel is:

McDonald Carano LLP, 2300 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 1200  
(street address)

Las Vegas, Nevada, 89102  
(city) (state) (zip code)  
702-257-4521, jsilvestri@mcdonaldcarano.com.  
(area code + telephone number) (Email address)

1 By this designation the petitioner and undersigned party(ies) agree that this designation constitutes  
2 agreement and authorization for the designated resident admitted counsel to sign stipulations  
3 binding on all of us.

4

5 **APPOINTMENT OF DESIGNATED RESIDENT NEVADA COUNSEL**

6

7 The undersigned party(ies) appoint(s) Jeffrey Silvestri as  
8 (name of local counsel)  
his/her/their Designated Resident Nevada Counsel in this case.

9

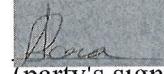
10

  
(party's signature)

11

Fremichael Ghebreyesus, Plaintiff  
(type or print party name, title)

12

  
(party's signature)

13

14

Simret Zerai Yohannes, Plaintiff  
(type or print party name, title)

15

16

17 **CONSENT OF DESIGNEE**

18 The undersigned hereby consents to serve as associate resident Nevada counsel in this case.

19



20 Designated Resident Nevada Counsel's signature

21

5779  
Bar number

jsilvestri@mcdonaldcarano.com  
Email address

22

23

APPROVED:

24

DATED this 26th day of October, 2022.

25

26

27

28

  
RICHARD F. BOULWARE, II  
United States District Judge

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 26th day of October 2022, a copy of the foregoing  
**VERIFIED PETITION FOR PERMISSION TO PRACTICE IN THIS CASE ONLY BY**  
**ATTORNEY NOT ADMITTED TO THE BAR OF THIS COURT AND DESIGNATION**  
**OF LOCAL COUNSEL (NEIL A.F. POPOVIC)** was filed electronically through the Court's  
CM/ECF system, which causes service upon all counsel registered thereon and was also served  
via email and by depositing a copy in the U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, upon the parties and at the  
address listed below:

Samuel C. Moore  
526 King Street, Suite 506  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
[scmoore@scmoorelaw.com](mailto:scmoore@scmoorelaw.com)

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[dd@demissiechurch.com](mailto:dd@demissiechurch.com)

Alexandra H. Deal  
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6 Beacon Street, Suite 305  
Boston, MA 02108  
[adeal@pdblast.com](mailto:adeal@pdblast.com)

*Attorneys for Defendants the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia; the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia; the City of Addis Ababa; the Sub-City of Bole, Addis Ababa; and the Federal First Instance Court of Ethiopia*

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*Attorneys for Defendant Brook Bekele*

/s/ *CaraMia Gerard*  
An Employee of McDonald Carano

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PHONE 702.873.4100 • FAX 702.873.9966

1 **INDEX OF EXHIBITS**

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3 <b><u>Description</u></b>	4 <b><u>Exhibit No.</u></b>	5 <b><u>Bates No.</u></b>
Certificate of Good Standing	1	001

# **EXHIBIT 1**

## **Certificate of Good Standing**

# **EXHIBIT 1**



**The State Bar  
of California**

180 Howard Street, San Francisco, CA 94105

**OFFICE OF ATTORNEY REGULATION &  
CONSUMER RESOURCES**

AttorneyRegulation@calbar.ca.gov  
888-800-3400

**CERTIFICATE OF STANDING**

July 7, 2022

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that according to the records of the State Bar, NEIL A. FRIEDMAN POPOVIC, #132403 was admitted to the practice of law in this state by the Supreme Court of California on December 14, 1987 and has been since that date, and is at date hereof, an ACTIVE licensee of the State Bar of California; and that no recommendation for discipline for professional or other misconduct has ever been made by the Board of Trustees or a Disciplinary Board to the Supreme Court of the State of California.

THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A. Calderon".

Alex Calderon  
Custodian of Records